



CITY OF BEND

January 31, 2023

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CITY MANAGER

Eric King

Senate Joint Committee on Transportation
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for HB 2095

Co-Chair Gorsek, Co-Chair McLain, and Members of the Committee:

We write on behalf of the City of Bend to urge your support for HB 2095 expanding authority for use of fixed and mobile photo radar to all cities in Oregon, and the use of fixed photo radar on “high-speed” corridors. In addition, it modifies existing authority for cities to adjust speed limits up to 10 mph. This change in state law would allow Bend to improve safety in certain areas that are prone to crashes due to high speeds and red-light offenders with fixed photo radar, as well as allow Bend to be proactive in speed enforcement and speed limit reduction before areas become “high-crash corridors.”

Allowing all cities in Oregon the ability to adjust speed limits by increments of 10mph allows cities to address high speed areas more effectively. Speed is a critical contributor to the survivability of a vehicle crash and reducing speeds in 10mph increments can substantially contribute to decreased fatal accidents within the community.

Automated traffic enforcement allows for law enforcement agencies to work efficiently in enforcing speed limits and monitoring intersections. While the City of Bend currently has the ability to use mobile photo radar under ORS 810.438, it is limited by how long, how often, and where the mobile photo radar can be used. Expanding to unrestricted photo radar would greatly enhance transportation safety. With the use of mobile photo radar, Bend has demonstrated that the public learns where photo radar is installed, which in turn encourages drivers to slow down and obey traffic control devices to avoid an automated citation. We need to expand our use of technology to better support our law enforcement officers and serve our communities throughout the state.

Mobile and fixed photo radar and speed limit adjustments are critical tools for enhancing safety on our roads and should be available to use by all Oregon

communities. We commend you for taking this issue up and helping places like Bend be safer and more just for all Oregonians.

Sincerely,



Mayor Melanie Kebler
City of Bend



Councilor Anthony Broadman
City of Bend

